

## Message Text

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53

ORIGIN L-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 OPIC-03 /027 R

DRAFTED BY: L/M:SHWHILDEN

APPROVED BY: L/M:KEMALMBORG

OPI/GC: AKEESEE

OPIC:GC:G MORGAN

OPIC:GC:C LIPMAN

----- 004840

R 191640Z APR 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 094269

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE FROM ABIDJAN DTD 14 APR 1976 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 3586

FOR STEVEN/ WHILDEN L/M

DEPT PLEASE PASS OPIC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CFED, IV

SUBJ: TAW TRANSFERS

REFA: A. STATE 83984, B. STATE 32314, C. ABIDJAN 1926

1. PURSUANT DEPT INSTRUCTIONS REF A, THE AMBASSADOR

APPROACHED CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR ON SUBJECT TRANSFERS

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APRIL 12. CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR WAS MOST CONCERNED TO

DISCOVER TRANSFERS HAD BEEN MADE IN FRENCH FRANCS AND INDICATED THAT TIS COULD RAISE NUMBER OF LEGAL QUESTIONS. HE REQUESTED THAT WE ASCERTAIN ORIGIN OF TRANSFERS, I.E. PARIS OR ABIDJAN.

2. SUBSEQUENT INVESTIGATION OF EMBASSY CASHIER'S RECORDS REVEALED ALL TRANSFERS MADE BY BANK DRAFT DRAWN ON BIAO PARIS, PAYABLE TO THE ACCOUNT OF US DISBURSING OFFICER, APRIS. DRAFTS WERE RECEIVED BY CASHIER EMBASSY ABIDJAN AND DEPOSITED IN LOCAL BIAO BRANCH FOR USDO PARIS ACCOUNT.

3. WHEN ABOVE INFORMATION TRANSMITTED TO CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR, HE INDICATED THAT TRANSFERS DID NOT CONTRAVENE IVORAIN LAW, SINCE THEY WERE DONE BY BIAO PARIS TO BIAO PARIS IN FRENCH FRANCS. THUS ALSO, IT NO LONGER SEEMED APPROPRIATE TO HIM TO INVOLVE BCEAO IN DETERMINATION OF LEGALITY QUESTION.

4. AMBASSADOR AND CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR AGREED THAT SHOULD USG NONETHELESS REQUIRE A STATEMENT OF VALIDITY OF TRANSFERS UNDER THESE CONDITIONS, CENTRAL BANK DIRECTOR WOULD TRY TO WORK SOMETHING OUT. SINCE THE TRANSFERS, FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES, ARE VIEWED BY DIRECTOR AS TRANSFERS IN PARIS BETWEEN TWO NON-RESIDENT FRENCH FRANC ACCOUNTS, WHAT TYPE OF CERTIFICATION, IF ANY, SHOULD WE SEEK FROM DIRECTOR BECAO ABIDJAN? WOULD IT BE SUFFICIENT TO HAVE HIS WRITTEN STATEMENT THAT TRANSFERS ARRANGED THROUGH BIAO PARIS DID NOT CONTRAVENE IVORIAN LAW?

5. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP. SMITH UNQTE ROBINSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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